

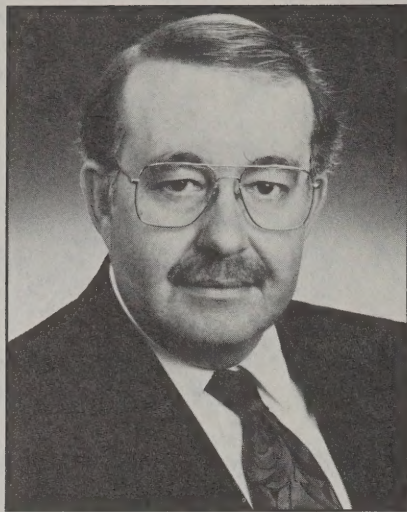
# ALASKA PEOPLE

October 1993 Vol. 14, No. 10



Little improvements  
yield big dividends





## A message from Director Jim Baca

Fall is harvest time in North America. Mention of harvest brings thoughts of America's magnificent fields of grain, of corn shocks and pumpkins and other market crops. Unbeknownst to many, fall is also a time of major harvests on the nation's public lands.

Too many people in our nation think of the public lands only as mining and grazing lands. The rich, varied harvest which comes from land managed by the BLM is amazing. During fiscal year 1991, there were 23,192 separate sales of non-timber and vegetal materials. These sales put a quarter million dollars in the U.S. Treasury. Each sale was conducted in a manner which was not damaging to the resource, and which did not diminish or endanger the product source.

One of the tastiest harvests is of the nut of the pinon pine, with more than 30 tons of pine nuts gathered commercially in good years in the Great Basin and New Mexico. Families can collect up to 25 pounds each, without a permit, so additional unknown hundreds of pounds are harvested during family outings.

In Oregon, collection of mushrooms has drawn attention of national publications. The public lands of that northwestern state provide fine growing conditions for edible mushrooms. Oregon and California abound with wild berries. Commercial harvest is of vegetation, with BLM selling new young plants by the bunch. In late summer, hundreds of families harvest the berries themselves, often preserving them as jams and jellies.

Oregon public lands offer the greatest diversity of harvested natural products. Unique to that state's commercially harvested items are Cascara bark, ferns, beachgrass, manzanita and burls, among other items.

Our public lands hold one of

the greatest reserves of native grass and plant seeds. Commercial harvesting is limited and carefully controlled to prevent damage to stands of the plants. The forests of Oregon also hold Pacific Yew, a tree whose bark is critical to creation of taxol, a drug for treatment of cancer. While active harvest is presently occurring on private lands, the BLM forests hold a reserve supply of the trees.

A significant harvest of non-consumable items occurs on the public lands. More than 40,000 Christmas trees were cut on public lands for the 1991 holiday. Other commercial sales at holiday time were made of boughs, cones, greens and moss. The plant harvest includes yucca, cactus and joshua, among other desert vegetation. In wooded areas, sales are made of "wildings" (young trees and shrubs).

While hay is harvested in a number of locations, the tonnage has always been light. This year, however, the newly-acquired Marys River lands in Nevada provided 665 tons of hay for the Palomino Valley Wild Horse Corrals. Marys River lands were acquired in a trade for land near the city of Las Vegas.

BLM-managed lands are the site of untold hours of family recreation, and provide habitat for a major percentage of the wildlife of the Western United States. Seldom noticed in these undertakings is the harvestable production of those same lands. Non-timber and vegetative sales are of renewable resources. The sales occur in a quiet, orderly manner in hundreds of locations. They are part of our business in which we can take great pride, for these sales are undemanding of the land, and cause virtually no lasting impact.

The harvest which occurs on the public lands is a part of our business in which we can all take pride.

BLM  
lands  
yield  
abundant  
harvest





# Satellite telephone provides vital link in crisis

by Sharon Durgan Wilson

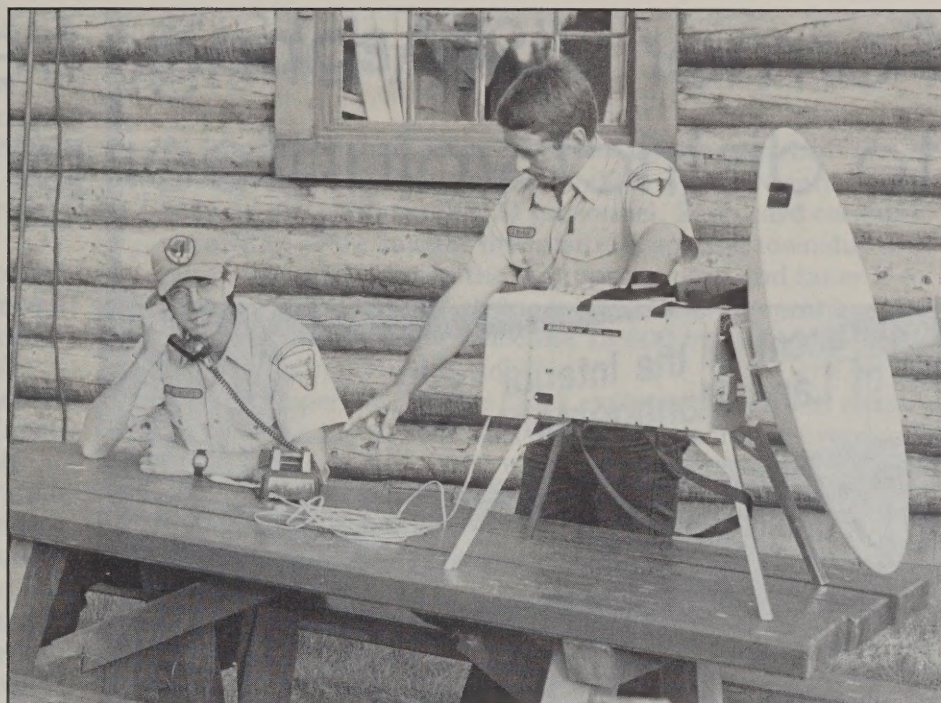
When disaster strikes in the wee hours of the morning, 80 miles from the nearest community on a winding, gravel road, who do you call? In Chicken, where the nearest telephones are in Tok, Eagle or Canada's Dawson City, the answer is—no one.

However, a special satellite telephone at the Steese/White District's Chicken Field Station provided a vital communications link when two visitors from Mississippi needed critical emergency first aid.

Jeff Roach, a summer seasonal employee for BLM in the Fortymile area, and SCA Jeff Jacobs were awakened at 6 a.m. on July 1. "We were sleeping soundly when we heard someone banging on the door. Terry Doyle from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in Tok had two young men in his pickup, covered with blood."

Their truck had gone off the Taylor Highway and rolled down a 100-foot slope, coming to rest upside down in a creek. They crawled up to the road and were picked up by Doyle, who was out working on a bird survey.

Doyle, Jacobs and Roach administered basic first aid and took vital signs. "We're certified in standard first aid and CPR," Roach said. "We knew how to put pressure on their wounds, take their vital signs, and try to keep them



Jeff Jacobs and Jeff Roach with the Magnaphone satellite telephone system used in a recent rescue.

alive until help arrived."

Response time to an accident in the area is usually a minimum of four hours. One of the victims had severe head injuries and was passing in and out of consciousness. The only communication at the Chicken station in the past was a radio link to the BLM office in Tok. At 6 a.m., there was no one in the office to answer the radio.

Realizing the potential for just such a situation, the Alaska Fire Service provided a Magnaphone satellite telephone system at the Chicken Field Station last spring.

Roach immediately set up the new satellite telephone, and called the Alaska State Trooper office in Tok. The dispatcher, Sherry Vanderlinden, was astonished to receive the call. "I think this is the first time we ever had an accident reported by telephone," she said. "They usually come over CB radio, and you can hardly hear the details. This call was crystal clear."

Soon two emergency aircraft were en route to Chicken with an emergency medical technician aboard each. Roach met the EMTs at the airfield and drove them to

the Chicken Field Station, where they stabilized the victims. Roach then drove everyone back to the aircraft, and they flew directly to Fairbanks.

Troopers later reported back to BLM that the victims had recovered well enough to travel after a few days, and had flown back to Mississippi to recuperate from their ordeal.

Roach says it gives him a feeling of security to have the satellite telephone in Chicken. "The Tok office wouldn't have opened for two more hours, and if it had been over the weekend, there would have been no contact at all. Someone would have had to drive to Tok for help."

Holli McClain



# Former VISTA brings fresh ideas to district volunteer program

by Danielle Allen



Jeff Brune answers questions about BLM recreation trails at the Earth Fair held earlier this year. Brune has enlisted the help of several volunteer groups over the summer to help with trail maintenance at the Campbell Tract.

Ever since Jeff Brune came to the Anchorage District, the volunteer program hasn't been the same.

Brune, an intense, energetic young man with impressive credentials, is responsible for increasing the number of volunteers who choose to work at BLM's Campbell Tract in Anchorage. His volunteer projects were recently profiled on local television and in the Anchorage Daily News.

Hired as an environmental education specialist six months ago, he came to the district to help with the planning and operations of the yet-to-be-built BLM Campbell Creek Environmental Education Center. A large part of his job will be to coordinate the center's volunteer program. Until the center is built and operational (estimates are 1995), he assists Kathy Liska, the center's manager, and environmental education specialist Van Waggoner with education center plans. In the meantime, some of his energy has been directed to coordinating and encouraging groups and organizations to do volunteer work on the Campbell Tract.

This summer Brune talked the Alaska Native Plant Society into doing a comprehensive plant list of the tract, and persuaded campers from the YMCA day program to regularly pick up trash in the area. He also arranged for workers under a municipal work program to paint a cabin and erect signs along miles of recreational trails.

Right now he's working with BLM law enforcement agents Dean Crabbs and Andy Gifford to address the problems of trash and vandalism plaguing parts of the tract.

He says cooperation between BLM and the Anchorage Police Department may result in police patrolling the area to help combat late night revelers and their debris. He says, "I've been educated beyond my years by the things I've found left in the woods by people."



Brune's formal education began in a parochial school 22 years ago in Nebraska. He describes himself as the adventurous fourth child of six children. By eighth grade he informed his mom that he'd had enough of parochial school. In public school he got to know youth from different backgrounds, excelled academically and tried to master as many sports as possible. He sought adventure by scuba diving the coral reefs of Florida, financed from paper-route money and traveling and singing with a boys choir.

Brune later earned his BA in Biology and English at Cornell University, and along the way learned French, fell in love and lived in France. He collected his MA in Science Journalism from New York University in 1989.

His first job was for *Scholastic Science World*, where he served as associate editor for two years. This bimonthly magazine supplements the science curriculum of junior and high school students around the United States. He was involved in all aspects of its publication, from the layout to writing feature pieces and hands-on science activities. He then became a reporter for *Discover* magazine, another popular science publication found at newstands with a monthly circulation of 5 million. To date, he's published over 150 articles on science and environmental topics for magazines, radio and encyclopedias.

Brune came to work for the government because of his strong commitment to community. "I strongly believe in community service," he says. "Some people choose the military. I chose VISTA!"

For a year, as a VISTA volunteer, he ran the BLM's State Office RAPS program. Among other things, he developed and wrote the RAPS Educational Handbook, a natural resource curriculum for Native youth.

He hopes to parlay his early successes into greater ones for the district's volunteer program and the education center. He says, however, his greatest success to date is his family—wife, Christine, and their new addition, baby Gabriella.

## Kudos to...

The ASO Public Room Technical Information Unit for revamping the indexing of the 20,000+ aperture cards used daily by the public and BLM personnel. Each card contains microfiche of the master title plat to a specific township and range. The user locates the appropriate card and takes it to a viewer to obtain land status information. The problem was locating the right card, since the 18,600 townships in Alaska have one or more plats each.

Unit supervisor Romie Clark explains: "We try to clean up the indexing periodically, and it was definitely overdue. The problem is getting the indexing supplies, since they're not a standard GSA product, and have to be special ordered."

When the indexing materials finally arrived, Clark asked contact rep Thursa Hayward to work with RAPS student Cheryl Konahok on the project. The two installed new easy-to-read labels and indexing tabs in the 70 narrow file drawers that house the aperture cards. Says Hayward, "Cheryl did most of the work, I just helped her get started. I sort of adopted her, she was a good worker."

Does the new indexing make a difference? Just ask land law assistant Mary Bloes, who pulls dozens of master title plats each week for use by conveyance adjudicators. "You bet it makes a difference," she says. "Now I can go directly to the township and range I'm looking for. It expedites my job and the adjudicator's job. When you take a little time-saving thing and multiply it by the number of users, you get pretty significant savings. I think that kind of improvement is what TQM is all about."

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We'd like to make "Kudos" a regular feature of ALASKA PEOPLE. Do you know of someone caught in the act of doing their job especially well? If so, drop us a line (AK-912) or give us a call at 271-3322.



Jon Deininger

Contact rep Thursa Hayward and RAPS student Cheryl Konahok of the ASO Public Room.



# New mining regulations test the mettle of Public Room staff



Teresa McPherson

ASO Public Room supervisor Lois Simenson and cashiers Janie Fisher and Carol Taylor chat with miner Bill Audsley.

by Teresa McPherson

The last week of August was business as usual for most Alaska BLMers. But for Public Room staff and many Alaskan miners, it was anything but.

Aug. 31 was the deadline for miners to pay the new rental fees or file exemption documents as required in the 1993 appropriations bill. For Public Room staff in both Anchorage and Fairbanks, it meant a week of intense public service. Public Room staffers helped miners fill out forms, hastily printed hand receipts when computers proved a bit sluggish, enlisted Minerals or district staff to explain the technical parts of the

new regulations, and often served as sounding boards when miners needed to vent a little.

ASO Public Room supervisor Lois Simenson explains: "It was stressful, but I'm proud of our staff. They were patient and professional. They skipped breaks, even lunch on some days, and stayed late to help mining claimants. We knew the filing deadline would be hectic, but no one was prepared for just how hectic it really was!"

Simenson and Fairbanks Public Room supervisor Martha Woodworth provided a little semi-professional counseling for several

"We knew the filing deadline was prepared for just how he

confused and frustrated claimants throughout the week. "We had a call from two women on the Kenai Peninsula whose husbands were out working their claims, and left their wives to handle the paperwork and fees," said Simenson. She gave the wives a crash course on what forms and fees were required under the new rules. After a series of telephone calls, facsimiles, and credit cards, the filing requirements were satisfied.

Since many miners live and work far from BLM offices, telephones and fax machines were critical to helping claimants meet the filing deadlines. Contact reps watched fax machines constantly, and rushed incoming forms and credit card authorizations directly to the cashiers.

Land law examiner Carol Taylor was one of three cashiers handling the fees at the ASO Public Room. Taylor says that on Friday, Aug. 27, the ASO cashiers took in over \$300,000. "I was glad the rangers were here!" Taylor said. BLM Special Agents Dean Crabbs and Andy Gifford provided security, since the amount of cash coming in was a great deal more than normal. In Fairbanks, district rangers also did periodic walk-throughs to provide a subtle law enforcement presence.

Taylor says it was hectic trying



# Requirements Public Room staffers

could be hectic, but no one  
it really was!" —Lois Simenson

to answer questions while receipting money. "But I guess the hardest thing was when frustrated customers would take it out on us. One person told Janie (Fisher) that we were thieves and extortionists. He came back later and apologized. We tried not to take things personally—but it wasn't easy!"

LLE Romie Clark added: "They had to vent, and we're the only part of government they see."

Meanwhile, a similar scene was occurring at the Fairbanks Public Room. Gina Ristow, on loan

from Docket, smothered a chuckle when she saw Nelda Garrett and Sue Giovinazzo tactfully rearrange their countertops. The two were removing breakable items "to accommodate the more physical applicants who kept leaning in closer as they spoke," explained Ristow.

It wasn't all bleak, however. Staff from both Public Rooms said they had lots of support during the hectic time. Garrett said, "Our 3809 personnel were very helpful in explaining the new regulations. Donna Wixon and Gina Ristow of Docket were great at pitching in. I think everyone pulled together and worked as a team."

Another bright note was miner Frederick Haas, who was in Florida at the time and had to do

his filing long distance. Haas later wrote Secretary Bruce Babbitt to commend the Public Room staff for their help: "Please convey my sincere appreciation to all your people who assisted us in dealing with the increasing government complexities. In particular, Nell Alloway (ASO Minerals), who always took the time to efficiently answer all my questions. Also, Carol, Janie, and Peggy (Richardson) who received my paperwork and rapidly notified me of any mistakes I had made. Their efforts exemplify the true meaning of the public service profession."

Congratulations to all the hard-working professionals of the ASO and FBX Public Rooms!



Dan Gullickson

Like the ASO Public Room, Nelda Garrett and Susan Giovinazzo of the Fairbanks Public Room saw a marked increase in the number of documents filed by Alaska miners during the final week of Aug. "It was business as usual, multiplied ten times!" laughed Giovinazzo.



## Where are they now?



Dan Gullikson

BLM retiree Virginia Ezell is now a customer service representative for the Fairbanks Daily New-Miner, and a student at the University of Alaska Fairbanks.

by Sharon Durgan Wilson

Leaving Fairbanks just wasn't in her plans when Virginia Ezell retired from BLM in 1989. Retirement for her turned out to be a full-time job and a college education.

"After 29 years with the government—10 with the Alaska Communication System and 19 with BLM—I was looking forward to retirement and a life of leisure," said the former land law examiner. "But after six months of sleeping until noon and cleaning the

remotest corner of my house, I accepted a part-time job with the Fairbanks Daily News-Miner as a customer service representative."

Ezell also enrolled in the University of Alaska Fairbanks and began studying for an Associate of Arts degree. She's now half-way to that goal, and thinking in terms of becoming a writer.

It hasn't been all work for Ezell. "I took a break the winter of 1991-92 and spent 10 months in Huntsville, Alabama, visiting my daughter and enjoying the sights in that part of the country," Ezell said.

"But Fairbanks is my home and I'm glad to be back," Ezell said. She returned to the News-Miner, where her job became full time. To ensure that she isn't bored, Ezell maintains her membership in the Eagles Club and the National Association of Retired Federal Employees. She cares for a dog, a cat and a fish tank at home, and enjoys fishing for grayling at Clearwater Lake, camping and flower gardening.

"I take morning classes, then work from noon until 9 p.m.," Ezell said. "It's amazing how much I can get done during the day. As for retirement—I guess I just don't know when to quit."

### CFC '93

## The most rewarding hour you work may be the one you give away

The 1993-94 Combined Federal Campaign is underway. CFC Coordinator Wayne Boden challenges each employee to consider the gift of one hour's wages each month. One hour's pay doesn't cost much, but it goes a long way to help strengthen families, improve health, and help people who really need help.

The true beauty of CFC is that you can earmark your contributions to the organization that has special significance for you. And contributions can be put to work right here in Alaska, or around the world—the choice is yours.

When the CFC canvasser for your section brings you materials on this year's campaign, take a few

minutes to look them over. The booklet lists all the organizations right here in Alaska that need your contributions, and others that benefit people around the world. Whatever your preference, payroll deduction makes it easy and convenient to give. Simply fill in the pledge card and the payroll office does all the paperwork for you.

Join CFC Coordinator Wayne Boden and the hundreds of other generous Alaska BLMers who each year make the Combined Federal Campaign a success. Let's show Southcentral Alaska that BLM employees are real "FEDS" (Federal Employees Doing and Sharing)!



# AFS station manager a link with the past

by Andy Williams

The Alaska Fire Service lost a link with the past when Charlie Thomas retired as the Fort Yukon station manager Aug. 27.

Most firefighters active today were not even a gleam in their parents' eyes when Thomas hired on to an emergency firefighter crew in 1957. He became station manager at Fort Yukon in 1974 after working as assistant manager for two years.

Born in Fort Yukon, Thomas was a firefighter before helicopters, smokejumpers and retardant were brought into use. "In the old days, we used a Grumman Goose and landed on the nearest lake. Sometimes it would take all night to walk around the fire," he said.

Pulaskis and shovels were the basic tools of firefighters then as

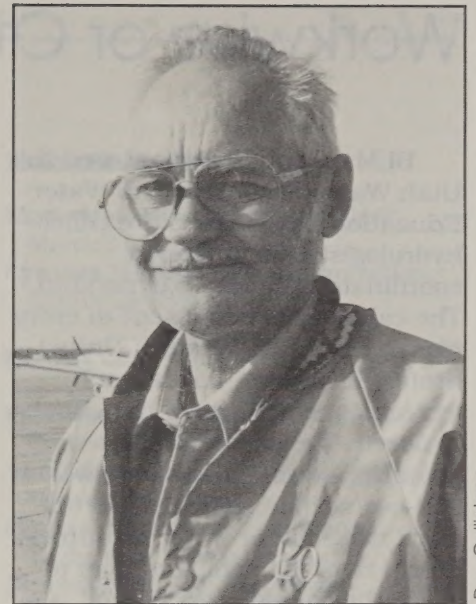
now, but there were no chainsaws and few pumps. Conditions in the field were also more primitive. Thomas recalls crews ate "C" rations dropped free-fall from aircraft. "They'd just open the door and throw it out and God help it if it hit a spruce tree or a rock. Now they get fresh food," he said.

"The helicopters BLM uses today weren't even born yet. What we had then was just a little bubble with two people sitting side by side. Then one day in 1960 or '61, I saw a DC-3 flying over and jumpers came out. I thought that was pretty neat."

Retardant aircraft made their appearance a few years later. Thomas said the first aircraft had a capacity of only 600-gallon, compared to more than a 2,000-gallon capacity today. He remembers two or three aircraft flying in formation to drop retardant.

Conditions were also primitive at the Fort Yukon fire station when Thomas took over. "We had a teletype and a telephone, and I thought that was pretty great back then. You should see what they get now," he said.

The Fort Yukon fire station can base more than 70 people at a time. Thomas has seen it brimming to capacity many times



Dan Gullickson

Newly retired AFS Fort Yukon station manager Charlie Thomas

during the nearly two decades that he managed the station.

Although he's reached the mandatory retirement age for firefighters of 55, Thomas expects to keep in contact with his friends at AFS. For now, however, he said his plans are to go moose hunting just as he does every fall, and to spend the winter on his trapline.



Teresa McPherson

**YOUR SOUTHCENTRAL ALASKA AREA 1993-94 CFC KEYWORKERS:**  
Front row: Cliff Ligons (915), Connie Lewis (930), Regina Scantlebury (940), Dorothy Bonds (920). Back row: Lynn Lewis (970), Courtney Alston (980), CFC Coordinator Wayne Boden (960), Helen Oradei (950), Jim Mroczek (912). Not pictured: Cheryl Anzivino (960), Dorine McCall (950), Ann Johnson (960), Jeff Brune (040), and Ron Alston (950).





# Workwise or Otherwise

BLM recently co-sponsored the Utah Water Resources Lab Water Education Calendar. State Office hydrologist **Bunny Sterin** coordinated the new partnership. The calendar is being sent to every classroom in the Western United States, including Alaska, and features posters drawn by school children. The calendar also contains a question and answer fold-out section to help students learn more about water resources. Sterin says the sponsors plan to make the calendar an annual publication.

**Brian Lubinski**, fisheries biologist for the Steeve/White Mountains District, gave a slide presentation of his paper *Use of Ground Surveys to Validate Aerial Radio Telemetry Data: Arctic Grayling as a Case in Point*, at the 123rd Annual Meeting of the American Fisheries Society in

Portland, Oregon, Aug. 29.

The federal fall subsistence hunting season for moose and caribou within Alaska Game Management Unit 13 came to a close on Sept. 20. The **Glennallen District** issued 1,400 caribou permits and 500 moose permits. Permits are issued to residents of the area for use on unencumbered federal lands managed by BLM within the game management unit.

On Sept. 30 Southwest Adjudication land law assistant **Judy Kelley** took First Place in an area-wide Toastmasters International competition. Kelley, a six-year Toastmaster with Anchorage's Borealis Club, won a First Place Medal for her response in the Table Topics portion of the competition. Table Topics challenges speakers' ability to "think on their feet" as they test their extemporaneous speaking skills by

responding to impromptu questions.

Toastmasters International is an approved training activity for BLM employees wanting to improve their public speaking abilities. If you're interested in joining Toastmasters, talk to your supervisor about updating your training plan, and see your Training Officer.



## Notes from EEO...

Oct. has been designated by Congress and the President as National Americans with Disabilities Month, and National Aids Awareness Month.

Special Emphasis Program Manager Jack Grafton has arranged for Don Brandon of A.C.T. (Americans with Disabilities Act Compliance) to speak to interested managers, supervisors, and employees. Brandon will discuss reasonable accommodation, and the resources available in the area. The presentation will be held Oct. 19, 11:30 a.m. in room 141 of the AFOB.

During Aids Awareness Month, Penny Cordes of the Alaska State Epidemiology Lab will discuss the most recent medical, social, and legal information about aids. This presentation will be held Oct. 18, at 11:00 a.m., in the same location.

Please support these efforts, and allow your employees to extend their lunch hours to attend.

Any questions may be directed to Jack Grafton at 271-5066.



**A VERY SPECIAL GOOD-BYE**—The ASO Branch of Human Resources recently gathered in the Anchorage Federal Building atrium to say good-bye to a departing co-worker in a very unique way. Staffing assistant Brenda Coleman accepted a job at the National Park Service. Before leaving, she asked her HRM co-workers for a photo of the group as a going-away gift. So on Sept. 27 HRM employees filed into the atrium to smile for the camera and bid Brenda a warm farewell.



# Applause!

## Sustained Superior Performance

**Steven Stokke**, Land Surveyor,  
Cadastral Survey  
**Daniel Wiesner**, Land Surveyor,  
Cadastral Survey

## Time-Off Award

**Catherine Vitale**, Librarian,  
Administration

## On-the-Spot Cash Award

**Bonita Willer**, Supervisory Computer  
Programmer Analyst, Information  
Resources Mgmt

## Quality Increase Award

**Susan Lavin**, Land Law Examiner,  
Lands and Renewable Resources

## Length of Service Award

**10-Year Service Award**  
**Brenda Jones**, Purchasing Agent,  
Administration

## **20-Year Service Award**

**Stephen Lundeen**, Natural Resources  
Specialist, Kobuk District Office  
**Ramon Garcia-S**, Docket Clerk,  
Operations

## Retirements

**Laun Buoy**, Environmental Protection  
Specialist, Mineral Resources  
**Gene Schloemer**, Supervisory Natural  
Specialist, Alaska Fire Service  
**Frankie Pederson**, Land Law  
Examiner, Conveyance Mgmt  
**Robert Caughey**, Supervisory  
Computer Systems Analyst,  
Information Resources  
Mgmt

## Welcome Aboard

**Linda Mosely**, Land Status Clerk,  
Mineral Resources  
**Cynthia Meyers**, Surface Protection,  
Kobuk District Office

## Moving On

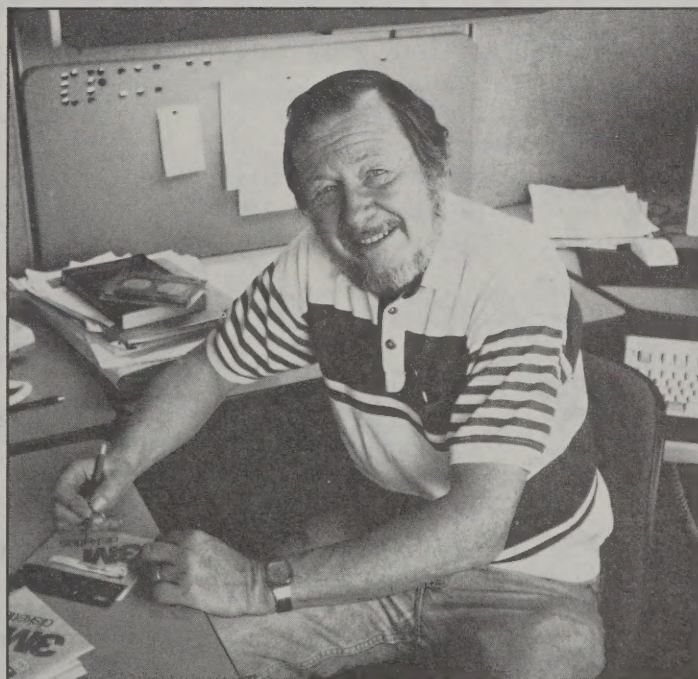
**Paul Evans**, Cartographic Technician,  
Cadastral Survey  
**Ann Adams**, Land Law Examiner,  
Conveyance Mgmt  
**Michael Peterson**, Cartographic  
Technician, Cadastral Survey  
**James Meek**, Land Surveyor,  
Cadastral Survey  
**Lee Adler**, Purchasing Agent,  
Glennallen District Office



Betsy Vanek

After 20 years of federal service at BLM's Alaska State Office, Conveyance's LIS coordinator **Ann Pederson** retired Oct. 1. Ann's husband, Don, also retired Oct. 1 from federal service. "I wasn't going to let him retire without me," says Ann. "He was eligible for retirement in July, and he agreed to work until I retired, too." Traveling by motorhome, Ann and Don left for southern California three days after retiring.

"We plan to fly back to Alaska for Christmas, and then return to California. We're taking the Alaskan winter off before deciding where to settle!" says Ann.



Betsy Vanek

IRM supervisory computer systems analyst **Bob Caughey** retired from BLM Oct. 1 with 31 years of federal service. Caughey began his federal career with the U.S. Air Force, and has also worked for the Dept. of Navy and NASA. "I've been with BLM for about 12 years, and I've truly enjoyed the work I've done here," said Caughey. "It's been interesting to see the changes in automation over the years."

Caughey left Alaska in early Oct. to settle in his home state of Washington, where he plans to "write, work on computers and try my hand at recreational mining."



# Casefile claustrophobia?!

Betsy Vanek



ASO Docket legal clerks Shirley Keisor and Ramon Garcia-S shudder at the sight of hundreds of casefiles returned for a brief refiling.

Docket recently found itself bombarded with casefiles that were temporarily returned by Conveyance adjudicators as they cleared their areas before a furniture move. Several Conveyance branches are temporarily displaced while their old furniture is replaced by the newer, space-efficient system units. When the move is completed, Ramon expects that many of the casefiles will be returned to adjudicators.

"But," says Ramon, "please keep at your desk only the casefiles you're actually using, and let Docket take care of the rest. Trust us!"

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Jim Mroczek



## On the Cover:

At the ASO Public Room, contact rep Thursa Hayward and RAPS student Cheryl Konahok spruce up the indexing of the 20,000+ aperture cards containing master title plats for lands in Alaska. The new indexing makes it easier to research land status. See page 5.

Photo by Jon Deininger.



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